



General Assembly

Amendment

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LCO No. 8852



Offered by:

SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **1099**

File No. 641

Cal. No. 361

***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A VISION AND STRATEGIC MASTER
PLAN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
4 Planning Commission for Education to develop and recommend the
5 implementation of a strategic master plan for public education in
6 Connecticut.

7 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:
8 (A) Five members appointed by the speaker of the House of
9 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former
10 superintendent of schools for a rural school district, one of whom shall
11 be a certified teacher who is currently employed as a teacher in a
12 public school or has retired from teaching in a public school not less
13 than one year prior to appointment, one of whom shall be a person

14 with knowledge and experience with students with special education
15 needs, one of whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience
16 in systems building and one of whom shall be a representative of an
17 organization representing boards of education; (B) five members
18 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom
19 shall be a current or former superintendent of schools for an urban
20 school district in which a charter school and interdistrict magnet
21 school are located, one of whom shall be a certified teacher who is
22 currently employed as a teacher in a public school or has retired from
23 teaching in a public school not less than one year prior to appointment,
24 one of whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience
25 regarding early childhood education, one of whom shall be a person
26 with knowledge and experience in civil rights relating to equity, access
27 and the quality of education and one of whom shall be a person with
28 knowledge and experience regarding adult education; (C) two
29 members appointed by the majority leader of the House of
30 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former
31 superintendent of schools for a regional school district and one of
32 whom shall be a student who is enrolled in a public high school in the
33 state; (D) two members appointed by the majority leader of the Senate,
34 one of whom shall be a current or former superintendent of schools for
35 a suburban school district and one of whom shall be a parent or
36 guardian of a student who is enrolled in a public school in the state; (E)
37 two members appointed by the minority leader of the House of
38 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of a state-wide
39 business organization and one of whom shall be a scholar who has
40 experience and expertise in the field of education from
41 prekindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive; (F) two members
42 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom shall be
43 an entrepreneur and one of whom shall be a scholar who has
44 experience and expertise in the field of higher education; (G) nine
45 members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a certified
46 teacher who is currently employed as a teacher in a public school or
47 has retired from teaching in a public school not less than one year prior
48 to appointment, one of whom shall be a parent or guardian of a

49 student who is enrolled in a public school in the state and one of
50 whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience in civil rights
51 relating to equity, access and the quality of education; (H) the
52 Commissioner of Education; and (I) the Commissioner of Early
53 Childhood. The commission membership shall reflect the state's
54 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

55 (2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting
56 members on the commission: (A) The Secretary of the Office of Policy
57 and Management, or the secretary's designee; (B) one representative
58 from each of the following associations or federations, designated by
59 the association or federation: The Connecticut Association of Boards of
60 Education, the Connecticut Association of Public School
61 Superintendents, the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators,
62 the Connecticut Education Association and the American Federation of
63 Teachers-Connecticut; (C) the chairpersons and ranking members of
64 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
65 cognizance of matters relating to education; (D) the chairpersons of the
66 achievement gap task force established pursuant to section 10-16mm of
67 the general statutes; and (E) the executive director of the Commission
68 on Children, or the executive director's designee.

69 (3) The commission shall elect cochairpersons of the commission at
70 its first meeting. Any vacancies shall be filled by the appointing
71 authority. The commission members shall serve without compensation
72 except for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
73 duties. The commission may seek the advice and participation of any
74 person, organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to
75 carry out the provisions of this section. The commission may, within
76 available appropriations, retain consultants to assist in carrying out its
77 duties. The commission may receive funds from any public or private
78 sources to carry out its activities.

79 (b) The commission shall articulate a clear vision and mission for
80 developing a sustainable, equitable and high-quality public education
81 system that coordinates the components of education reform, clarifies

82 how such components of education reform work together and
83 provides every child with access to an educational experience that
84 meets such child's needs. The commission shall develop and
85 recommend the implementation of a strategic master plan to carry out
86 such vision and mission.

87 (1) In developing the strategic master plan, the commission shall
88 address the following issues: (A) How to better organize the state
89 public education system to streamline various and disparate mandates,
90 initiatives and reforms that may compete with the articulated vision
91 and mission; (B) the manner in which the public education system
92 utilizes data and supports to inform and improve the provision of
93 education in the state; (C) the extent to which the accountability
94 system assesses the most worthy outcomes of public education; and
95 (D) the identification and analysis of the most significant factors that
96 effect and support the most worthy outcomes of public education for
97 all students, including, but not limited to, poverty, socioeconomic and
98 racial isolation, language barriers and parental engagement in a
99 student's education.

100 (2) In addressing the issues described in subdivision (1) of this
101 subsection, the commission shall consider: (A) What are the most
102 worthy outcomes of public education and what means can be taken to
103 achieve such outcomes; (B) the extent to which the public education
104 system prepares students to meet the challenges of work, citizenship
105 and life upon graduation; (C) strategies to develop state-wide
106 education leadership goals and to enhance education leadership in
107 conformance with such goals; (D) ways to ensure effective
108 communication and partnership between school districts and the
109 families of children who attend public school in such school district,
110 with particular focus on diversity; (E) ways to share best practices
111 within the public education system, including, but not limited to,
112 learning across methodologies, models and structures of educational
113 excellence; (F) what innovations are necessary to excel in both
114 competitiveness and character; (G) the extent to which the public

115 education system empowers students and educators to excel, innovate
 116 and build on strengths; and (H) best practices that ensure high quality
 117 instruction and promote continuous systemic improvement.

118 (3) The commission shall also examine and recommend changes to
 119 funding policies, practices and accountability in order to (A) align such
 120 funding policies, practices and accountability with the strategic master
 121 plan, (B) ensure that all school districts receive equitable funding from
 122 the state, and (C) determine and recommend measures to promote the
 123 adoption of ways in which resources can be most effectively utilized.

124 (c) (1) Not later than April 15, 2016, the commission shall submit a
 125 preliminary report on the development of the strategic master plan
 126 together with any recommendations for appropriate legislation and
 127 funding to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the
 128 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
 129 and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 130 of the general statutes.

131 (2) Not later than February 15, 2017, the commission shall submit
 132 the strategic master plan, including specific goals and benchmarks for
 133 implementation, together with any recommendations for appropriate
 134 legislation and funding to the Governor and the joint standing
 135 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 136 relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the
 137 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The commission
 138 shall terminate on the date that it submits the strategic master plan or
 139 February 15, 2017, whichever is later."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section